



# Inter Alia

SAN JOAQUIN COLLEGE OF LAW • Volume 29, Issue 2



## Dooley Takes CA's Top Administrative Post

Diana S. Dooley (Law '95) is now the Executive Secretary in the Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. The position is the top administrative post in state government and effectively makes her the governor's chief of staff.



SEE DOOLEY ON PAGE 13

# Avenger (Alumni) Origin Stories Shine at SJCL's Annual Career Panel



(L-R) Dean **Janice Pearson** and Career Panel Speakers **Leila Alamri-Kassim** (Law '16), **Erick Rhoan**, (Law '11), **Honorable Christine Nijjer** (Law '04), **Rajinder Sungu** (Law '12) and **Whitney Northington Barnick** (Law '16).

BY **DIANE SKOUTI BAIZA**, ALUMNI LIAISON

**G**raduates from as far away as Arroyo Grande and Sacramento came home to SJCL on a work-night to share their law school and career experiences with a packed house of prospective law students in April.

The willingness of the grads to bear that inconvenience is a reflection of how much they appreciate and care for their alma mater. In all, five panelists came back to share what's special about SJCL, as well as give some personal insights about how their careers have impacted their lives.

For most, it is the exceptional quality of the legal education and the myriad of opportunities: one on one interaction with professors, internships, and employment, that make SJCL a standout.

Leila Alamri-Kassim (Law '16), now an Associate Attorney at Lozano Smith, specializes in labor, employment, and education law. While in law school, she worked a few internships in addition to a work study job at the Marjaree Mason Center, and a clerking gig for Judge Anthony Ishii. Leila says her work in education law is already fulfilling her desire to contribute to the public good.

"Schools are a microcosm of society; (a lot of) the current issues, like freedom of speech, play out in schools, and it's fascinating," she said.

Leila also noted that, as the daughter of immigrant parents from Yemen, she had never seen herself depicted - as a woman of color with her specific background and culture - in the legal profession. Despite her numerous achievements as an undergrad (Smittcamp Family Honors College President's Scholar at Fresno State), and law school (several Witkin Awards and graduated with Distinction), Leila says she still struggled with "imposter syndrome" as a new attorney. With no professional role models that were like her, she had to keep telling herself, "Yes, you are an attorney!"

Panelist Erick Rhoan (Law '11) is a Deputy Attorney General in Sacramento. He made use of the extensive SJCL alumni network to secure a hard-to-get internship in the U.S. Attorney's Office, as well as an externship with the Hon. Gary Austin, and a clerking position at then, Weakley, Arendt, and McGuire. His work in Correctional Law (Department of Justice), takes him into prisons and occasionally

death row, which he finds fascinating. Erick has often referred to his coursework on constitutional law, as he works to defend correctional officers and occasionally, the governor of California!

Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Christine Nijjer (Law '04) said her career as an attorney was her third, after working for many years in a variety of fields that she found less than challenging. After time spent as a waitress, office manager, paralegal, teacher, and curricular advisor, Judge Nijjer says she never imagined she would be where she is today. As an ALJ, she holds hearings in prisons to determine the possibility of parole for people who have done "very bad things."

Rajinder (Raj) Sungu (Law '12) also tackled law after other careers. He came to Fresno as a mental health analyst, but wanted more of an academic challenge. After joining the local legal community, Raj says he has been "head hunted" by several firms looking to hire a quality attorney. As an immigrant himself, Raj says he wants to do more pro bono work in immigration. Helping his friends, family, and church



# Inter Alia

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## Get Social with SJCL



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**Vision:** To be the premier provider of legal education, scholarship, and service in the San Joaquin Valley.  
**Mission:** To educate and develop individuals to become highly skilled attorneys and problem solvers who will benefit their communities through public and private service. In seeking this vision and attaining this mission, SJCL shall embody the values of civility, excellence, integrity, intellectual inquiry, and service.

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# Social Justice and the NBA: One Grad at the Forefront of Change

As Dallas Mavericks' owner Mark Cuban deals with the fallout of an exposé alleging his basketball organization was steeped in “a culture of harassment and hostility” and the world watches to see how this latest manifestation of the #MeToo movement plays out, SJCL graduate Cyndee Wales (Law '95) has found herself suddenly, center court.

BY DIANE SKOUTI BAIZA, ALUMNI LIAISON

As she joins the pioneers at the forefront of this latest social movement, Cyndee is carving a path through the old growth culture that has hindered ethics and compliance in professional sports for years.

Cuban, who is himself under fire for his claim of oblivion to the goings-on in his own backyard, moved quickly to hire a new CEO, Cynt Marshall, who vows to position the Mavericks as the NBA team that will “set the standard for inclusion and diversity” by 2019. The vision was formed after an investigative report by Sports Illustrated revealed an alleged history of

hostility and harassment throughout the Mavericks' organization. The authors interviewed more than a dozen current and former employees, who described the organization as “corrosive” and “a real-life Animal House.”

In response, Marshall made changes to her executive leadership team, including hiring a woman as Senior Vice President of Human Resources. Moreover, she created a new position: Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer, Cyndee's new job, to serve as “an internal control point for ethics and improprieties, allegations, complaints, and policies.”



Cyndee says she believes her role as Ethics and Compliance Officer is unique in professional sports, at the team level. “The NBA has a compliance function at the league level; however, my understanding is that most teams have small HR departments, which focus on day-to-day HR activities. An Ethics and Compliance Department provides a system of checks and balances, based on a Code of Conduct, and ensures a diverse and inclusive culture,” she said.

Barely more than a month into her new role, Cyndee has made her presence known. “My first priority was to establish trust, and help people feel safe in the work environment - physically and emotionally.” She launched an NBA hotline number, in addition to a third party EthicsLine for employees to report suspected unethical behavior. In addition, she provided all 140+ Mavericks employees with a two-hour Respect in the Workplace Training course, for which she utilized the NBA’s numerous resources.

Cyndee says she hopes the current “Me Too” movement will show companies large and small that neither the size of an HR/Compliance staff, nor a well-written code of conduct matter, if an organization’s culture is unhealthy or improper.

For her part in this historic crusade, Cyndee is well-suited. Her initial interest in law came about because she “always liked to know the rules.” And it’s an abundance of rules that make up her immediate to-do list, which is based on a 100-day plan put in place by CEO Marshall: institute a zero-tolerance policy for inappropriate behavior, develop a women’s agenda, institutionalize an inclusive and supportive culture, and develop a best-in-class employee complaint process and operations infrastructure. The tasks read more like the resume of a longtime, administrative career.

“My personal goal is to educate women that no matter what the job or the industry, they do not - and should never tolerate being discriminated against, or be subjected to a hostile work environment.” As a previous Assistant Vice President in Human Resources for a large telecommunications company, Cyndee headed up a team of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) investigators and Affirmative Action Managers. Along with her background in



EEO, her career has included a broad range of positions, including responsibility for regulatory and legislative matters, and for the past ten years, ethics and compliance.

Having worked with Marshall in the past, Cyndee says she “jumped at the chance to get involved and help change the culture of the Mavericks, once Cynt was appointed CEO.”

“Employee surveys and PowerPoint presentations are not enough to gage the culture

of an organization,” Cyndee says. “It requires getting out of your office and walking around and talking to people – every day.”

Cyndee says she has already reaped the rewards of working to make a difference. “A woman stopped by my office one evening to say she couldn’t believe I left my previous job to come here (to the Mavericks organization), “...just to help us.” We can’t wait to see who Cyndee Wales helps next!



FRONT ROW (L-R) Jesse Banuelos, Jr., Ryan L. Lopez, Tiffany Anne Pack, Jennifer Nguyen-Bui, Corina Joanna Aguirre, Mirna Garcia Toscano, Jorge Gallegos, Jr., Tirzah Yamileth Umaña, Darcy Lavina Brown, Jennifer Michelle-Arnold Wharton, Katherine Ann Arnold, and Claudia Yvette Case; MIDDLE ROW (L-R): Joshua Ezekiel Hernandez, Marco Antonio Aguiar III, Osmundo Josue Arguello, Christina Marie Cardenas-Gonzalez, Raquel Monique Busani, Nicholas Raffaele Urgesi, Andrew Kyle Earl, Rosalia Estrada,

## Congratulations to the Class of 2018

**O**ur 45th graduating class. Thirty-eight newly minted Juris Doctors, who arrived at San Joaquin College of Law bearing degrees from 14 different colleges. Their majors range from Psychology to Forestry and Natural Resource Management, English Literature, Economics, Agricultural Business, and more. All had one thing in common at the June 2nd Commencement: gratitude.

“I would like to thank my parents for always serving as my motivation to achieve my lifelong goal of becoming an attorney. I would also like to thank the partners at Stammer McKnight for having given me, a kid from a small farming community on the Westside of the Central Valley with no legal experience, an opportunity when they so easily could have said ‘no.’”

Those were the words of Jorge Gallegos, Jr., who has already accepted an offer as an Associate Attorney at the firm following his bar passage.

Some also gave a nod to their former classmates and soon-to-be colleagues, with Martha Figueroa adding “It’s been a wild ride. I’m glad we took it together. Good luck, Counselors!”

Iqbal Bains gave a shout out to his wife for her sacrifices to support his studies, saying “You are the real MVP.”

For some, family and classmates were the same people. Katherine Arnold stated “To my sister and co-graduate, Jennifer, I couldn’t be prouder of us.” Jennifer Wharton echoed that in her statement, adding “We survived this journey together.

Looking forward to many more adventures still to come.”

Meanwhile, Lacy Barnes gave thanks to her daughter, Cecelia, “who joined me as an SJCL student and assisted me through Evidence. I hope to join her in a mother-daughter law practice someday.”

Valedictorian Darcy Brown understands how hard it can be on law students’ families. She recalled how her young son had given her a card on Mothers’ Day with the notation “PS: Please graduate soon.” Brown gave birth to a second child while still in law school. She notes she is not the only one with family and financial commitments outside of law school, adding “SJCL is not an ivory tower.” She says she has been “waiting for this day for 18 years. We are





**Michelle Marie Vasquez, Daniel Cooper Sharma, Cesar Armando Vargas, and Lenora Lacy Barnes; BACK ROW (L-R): Preetpal Singh Toor, Iqbal Singh Bains, Joshua Kingsley Roberts, Tejumola Modinat Olubeko, Joshua David Milton, Vismaad Gondara, James Preston Castleman, Kyle Michael Zimmer, Martha Real Figueroa, BreAnne Rene Ruelas, Roxanna Felicia Alchian, Kelsey Armstrong Seib, and Christopher R. Billington; NOT PICTURED: Jason Robert Crockford**

people who set our eyes on the horizon and on the highest peak.” She believes her fellow grads are now role models for others, advising them to “Share your story so that you might light a path for them.”

The Honorable Jonathan B. Conklin delivered the Commencement Address, offering up his thanks to the Law School in a simple way. As a Superior Court Judge and Adjunct Professor, he sits on the bench during the day and teaches many evenings at SJCL, but says “When I go home at night, I feel better when I’ve been there.” He took the opportunity to acknowledge Pat Smith, who started the same time as he did about 25 years ago, and was there for every test. He advised the graduates who may soon appear in his courtroom to be prepared and work hard, but added these virtues are nothing new to those who have earned this degree. “Will you be successful? You already are.”



The Honorable **Jonathan B. Conklin** delivered the Commencement Address



Valedictorian **Darcy Brown**





GRADUATION: A CELEBRATION OF







*Friends & Family*









# The Barnes Women of SJCL:

## *Two roads diverged in a yellow wood...*

Epitomizing a persona from a Robert Frost poem, Cecilia Barnes (3L) is purposeful about living authentically and in sync with her soul. As she looks ahead to her third and final year at SJCL, Cecilia is neither conquest driven, nor certain what she'll do after graduation. Among law students, she is atypical in many ways.

BY DIANE SKOUTI BAIZA, ALUMNI LIAISON

**T**he decision to enroll in law school, for example, was orchestrated more by chance, than design. Cecilia says she became intrigued after reading the assignments of a law student she knows. Her reasoning: "Why not?"

I see law school as just something I'm doing right now, but it's not specifically my ambition. It's stimulating...which is good," she said.

Not the usual rhetoric of students who have made it through the dreadful first-year gauntlet, survived the second, and are on track to graduate in only three years.

Most uncommon of all, however, is the fact that the other law student Cecilia knows is her mom. Lenora (Lacy) Barnes graduated from SJCL this June. It's a first among our ranks: a mother and daughter enrolled - concurrently.

In contrast to Frost's solitary road splitting in two, the highly divergent paths of the Barnes women seemed unlikely to join, of all places, in law school. Mom Lacy enrolled when she was 50, but she is definitely no late bloomer. You may recognize her as a famous local gal: top U.S. finisher in discus at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, two more Olympic trials, and numerous appearances at U.S. National and World Track Championships. Lacy attained a PhD in psychology, and has taught at Reedley College for more than 20 years, in addition to being named a Fresno State Top Dog in 2014. She has been president of

the State Federation of Teachers, Executive Vice President for California Federation of Teachers, and a member of AFT's Program and Policy Council for Higher Education, since 2010.

*Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them (both paths) really  
about the same*

While mother and daughter share a similar upbringing and moral base, thanks to Lacy's parents, (both deceased), Cecilia describes herself as random: "I just go with it." She is the polar opposite of her mother. Lacy says her instinct is to maximize her capacities and potentials. "I would never want to shortcut my path, any path," she says. "It's part of everything I do."

Despite their differences, the pair share a deep love and respect for one another. "My mom instilled the idea that it's okay to be who you are. She was definitely my mom, and not trying to be my friend. The discipline that sometimes made her the 'bad guy' was for my own good. I understood that," Cecilia says.

Like Lacy, Cecilia also excelled in track as a youngster, though she was never coached by her Olympian mom. She was good enough to win a full track scholarship to the University of Washington in Seattle, but says she quit after the first year.

*Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

"I just wasn't feeling it" (college life as an athlete), Cecilia said.

She felt instead that experience out in the world was more in alignment with her interests at the time. Some years later, after working in both Seattle and Alaska, she was offered a second athletic scholarship at Cal State Bakersfield, and completed a double major in philosophy and religious studies. For Cecilia, it has always been about authenticity one of the many traits her fellow classmates and professors respect and admire.

"Cecilia has mastered humility and compassion for her fellow human," said one of her law professors. "At the same time, she is razor sharp, and has real world experience. She has all the right ingredients to make a large difference in the legal community."

For Lacy, success as an elite athlete and academic was directed by a combination of perfectionism, mental strength, and fortitude. In competition, Lacy says she focused on herself - not her competitors - and the sector lines. It's been her philosophical perspective off the track as well. And yet, these traits haven't helped her shake a taunting force that broods in the background.

*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:*

"I see myself as a beacon for those who aren't supposed to achieve. When you look at my background, there's a lot of bias or forgone thought on who I am as a black woman, even though I carry with me the title of Olympian."

Despite her countless accomplishments, Lacy says she still endures the weight of judgement when she enters a room.

"I don't allow myself to be treated as just the black woman they initially see." She adds with a laugh, "I can slap them with all I have done!"

Both Barnes women take pleasure in knowing exactly who they are.

As a youngster in Ridgecrest (near the Mojave Desert), Lacy played multiple sports, most notably, boys little league baseball, before realizing she had a phenomenal talent for track. She understood early on that competition is 99% mental.

"Courage is to take on something at which you might fail. That's why, at this point in my life - law school," she said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Dean **Janice Pearson** congratulates **Lacy Barnes** (Law '18) on earning her Juris Doctor at the 2018 commencement ceremonies.

Initially meant to complement her current position as a union president, Lacy says her stint in law school has been life changing. Her longtime love of research and policy has been joined by a new love of the law. Surprisingly, Lacy says she has not been able to tame the mental aspect of law school, as she did in athletics. She has a genuine fear of the looming bar exam, due to a history of test anxiety.

“When I first came here (SJCL), I told people failure was definitely an option. Testing has always been my Achilles heel,” she said. She describes her exam history at SJCL as “going into a boxing ring and getting the crap beat out of me, every single time,” but she has a plan.

Before she takes the bar exam in July, she plans to do a dress rehearsal of the entire two-day experience: all test sections, the timing, the discomfort of place, everything...three times. That way, nothing should throw her, or knock her off pace. An Olympian approach to a herculean challenge – which will no doubt help her prevail.

Cecilia sums up her current mindset as a crisscrossing of paths, with her mother.

*And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black*

“I have always been more of a thinker. My mom is more of a doer. I finally see myself as having spent enough time reflecting, and I’m ready to start doing. My mom has already done so much, she may be ready to spend more time in reflection,” a sentiment to which Lacy wholeheartedly agrees.

“I look forward to getting back into my space, and being at peace,” Lacy says of her plans following graduation. Like many law students, she says she has neglected her spiritual and personal life for too long.

*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –  
I took the one less traveled by*

As she gears up for her final year of law school, Cecilia says she’s comfortable with where she is, and her own ideas about success. “I think success is primarily defined by each individual’s personal standard. If you don’t know your own internal standard, you allow others to define success for you, which brings about the pressure of holding to a standard that is of no personal value.”

For Cecilia, real and honest communication holds high value. She relayed a recent example:

“I inherited a ’67 Firebird from my beloved grandfather, and I was upset when it started making a strange noise. In route to

## The Road Not Taken

BY ROBERT FROST

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

the mechanic, I passed by a tarp-covered car parked in a driveway. I waved to the guy in the yard, and pulled over, on a hunch. The car under the tarp was the same model Firebird as mine! When I mentioned the worrying noise, the guy and his son discovered and fixed the problem: some loose bolts. They refused my offer to buy them lunch, in gratitude. ‘We Firebird people need to stick together,’ they said, and that was that. It was cool,” she said. “We probably never would have talked to each other if not for that one, honest link.”

Cecilia describes herself and her approach to life as “random, honest, and real, a style that is different from – but highly respected by – her mother. Lacy says motherhood, and her part in raising the incredible human being that is her daughter, is her proudest achievement of all.

*And that has made all the difference.*



# Dooley Takes CA's Top Administrative Post

**P**rior to this appointment, Dooley served as California Secretary of Health and Human Services for seven years and chaired the board of Covered California, which oversees the federal health care reform law in California. Before her move to Sacramento in 2011, Dooley was president and chief executive officer of the California Children's Hospital Association from 2006 to 2011, and general counsel and vice president of Valley Children's Hospital from 2000 to 2006.

In her new position, she serves "at the pleasure of the Governor," meaning the job will end as Governor Brown leaves office next year. She says she had intended to retire a while back, but Brown asked her to stay on and take over the post after the passing of Nancy McFadden who previously held the position, saying that "we need to finish strong." Dooley and Brown first worked together 43 years ago, when she took on the post of Special Assistant and Legislative Director back in 1975. She says her Valley roots offer a perspective grounded at the local level, in contrast to Brown's background as Mayor of San Francisco.

As for goals in office, Dooley points to Brown's inaugural address in 2011,

when he said California has conditions to be addressed, but the problems will not be solved. Those "conditions" include health care, where Dooley points to the five million Californians who now have health care, but didn't five years ago. Still, she says there is work to be done in that area, including access. As for the whole list, which also includes poverty, affordable housing, and income inequity, Dooley says "Each year, we make down payments in addressing that list."

The Hanford native is well-known for her commitment to the Valley, serving over the years on the Executive Committee of the U.C. Merced Board of Trustees, the Maddy Institute Board of Directors, and the California Historical Society Board of Trustees. She is also a past president of Planned Parenthood, the Visalia Chamber of Commerce, and the Central California Futures Institute. In addition, San Joaquin College of Law is grateful for the many times Dooley has served as an inspiration and role model for students considering law school, exemplifying the diverse opportunities afforded by a law degree. She was inducted into the San Joaquin College of Law Alumni Hall of Fame in 2013.



California Governor **Jerry Brown** and **Diana Dooley** (Law '95)

What does the future hold for Dooley? Her new position ends at midnight on January 6, 2019, as the new governor takes office. She would like to take a pause to "refresh and reflect" before she decides "if there is a next chapter." She might be interested in continuing some of her work on health care reform, "but not as a fulltime job." As for right now, she is telling her friends she intends to "go 4-F" when her current position ends. She says that means concentrating on four things: "family, friends, fitness, and fun."

## SJCL Welcomes Susie Aguilar

**W**e wish to welcome Susana "Susie" Aguilar, our newest Payroll/Staff Accountant. Susie graduated from CSU Fresno in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in business, and a concentration in accounting. A talented mathematician, Susie says she loves working with anything that involves numbers. "I really enjoy the accounting side of things because there's an adrenaline rush in figuring things out," she says.

Prior to joining our team, she worked for another non-profit organization, Reading and Beyond. Susie says she has purposely stayed in the non-profit sector because of the tendency for caring and humble people to be on staff. We're looking forward to her contributions as part of SJCL's staff!





# Barristers Ball at The Loft Events

**A** light evening rain on March 16th was no match for the fiery excitement of several hundred guests at the Student Bar Association's Barristers Ball. The Loft Events in the Tower District was packed and the air was filled with both the aroma of wonderful food and the banter of excited conversation.

Along with the customary scholarship and Witkin Awards, the New American Legal Clinic honored Olga Grosh with a Pro Bono Award for her many hours of service over the past year to the clinic.

Other high points of the evening included the announcement of Professor Christine Goodrich as winner of the Fulltime Faculty Teacher of the Year Award, while the Hon. Jonathan Conklin won the Adjunct Faculty Teacher of the Year Award.

SBA President Joseph Good would like to thank the SBA Officers and Representatives for their outstanding effort. They include Vice-President Yvette Case; Treasurer Jared Bertoni; Secretary Roxanna Alchian; Fourth Year Representative Darcy Brown; Third Year Representatives Gladdey Donsanouphit and Rena Harrison; Second Year Representatives Adriana Mendoza-Gurrola, Grace Zeluff and Jesus Pereda Jr.; and First Year Representatives Jordan Scrivner and Kelsey Schulteis.

San Joaquin College of Law would like to thank the many scholarship donors, both those in attendance and those who sustain this wonderful effort from afar.

"The Vision of San Joaquin College of Law is to be the significant provider of legal education, scholarship, and service."

Thank you for sharing our vision.

## Scholarship Recipients

ABOTA Memorial Scholarship

**Jorge Gallegos**

Alumni Association Carolyn T. Mirviss Scholarship

**Ali Huda**

Alumni Association Spirit of SJCL Scholarship

**Jodie Howard**

Baradat & Paboojian Trial Advocacy Scholarship

**Roxanna Alchian**

Bertha & John Garabedian Military Service Scholarship

**August Wolf-Petersen**

CCBA Scholarships

**Zachary Groothuyzen, Monica Rast, and Kelsey Seib**

Cartier First Year Improvement Scholarship

**Yao Vang**

Clovis Soroptimist Woman's Advocate Award

**Zena Sin**

Darryl B. Freedman Bar Study Support Scholarship

**Jennifer Nguyen-Bui**

Delta Theta Phi Scholarships

**Rachel Baskin and Zachary Groothuyzen**

Elizabeth O'Neill Memorial Scholarship

**Maria Valencia**

Ernest Kinney Trial Lawyer Scholarship

**Rachel Baskin**

Florentino Jose Memorial Scholarship

**Syuzanna Martirosyan**

The Founder's Scholarship

**Raquel Busani**

Ibarra/Casillas LawSUIT Scholarship

**Shannon Wentworth**

Janice Pearson Scholarship

**Joshua Hernandez**

Judy Wiseman Memorial Scholarship

**Jennifer Nguyen Bui**

Ken Coyle Memorial Scholarship

**Evan Wright**

Kharazi Bar Study Support Scholarship

**Tiffany Pack**

LawSuit Scholarship

**Shannon Wentworth**

Legal Edge Consumer Scholarship

**Emilio Avellaneda**

Leon S. Peters Foundation Leadership Awards

**Jared Bertoni, Joshua Hernandez, Fabian Perez, Ali Huda, and Daniel Cisneros**

Proctor Scholar of the Year

**Morgan Day**

SJCL Student Bar Association Law Scholarship for Merit

**Evan Wright**

SJCL Student Bar Association Law Scholarship for Need

**Ivan Gomez**

SJCL Student Bar Association Law Scholarship for Participation

**BreAnne Ruelas**









ALUMNI OF SULLIVAN & ASSOCIATES (L-R) **Joshua Kruger** (Law '12), **Renee Logoluso** (Law '88), **Julie MacMichael** (Law '14), **D'Artagnan Montrose** (Law '17), and **Jeremiah Paul** (Law '12).

## Rhinos, Wearing Shorts

*“Somewhere, deep in the jungle where few dare venture, there lives a wild animal called success. It is rare and much sought after, but only a few ever risk tracking it down to capture it.”*

Alexander, Scott. *Rhinoceros Success*. Spot Light Publishers, 1980.

BY **DIANE SKOUTI BAIZA**, ALUMNI LIAISON

When he was 12, the namesake and founder of Michael Sullivan & Associates read an unusual book entitled *Rhinoceros Success*, by Scott Alexander. Its motivating messages about persistence and tenacity struck a chord. That's why, years later, when he opened his first law office in Santa Monica, he chose the image of a rhino for his logo.

It seems the aggressive, single-minded traits of the plow-you-down-mammal, parallel those of a good attorney.

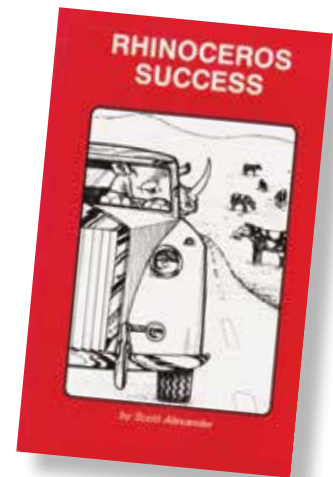
What some may see as testimony to the lessons in that book, Sullivan & Associates is now a multi-office firm with nine locations statewide, 62 attorneys, and six hearing representatives, emulating its mission as a “workers compensation defense firm that sets the standard for excellence in the industry.”

It is no surprise then, that five of the six attorneys in the Fresno office are SJCL alumni, each of them exemplary rhinoceri in action.

“This is a very forward thinking, young, and aggressive firm,” said Renee Logoluso (Law '88), Senior Trial Attorney. Renee's first career was as a legal secretary. When she decided to go to law school, she knew she would need to continue working full time. “SJCL provides the opportunity to do that, unlike other schools,” she said. “It took a lot of grit and determination, but I did it.”

Renee said when she graduated in 1988, SJCL was not yet well-known. “Now, I am so proud to see judges, commissioners, and so many respected, highly successful attorneys from SJCL,” she said. “With a reputation as a premier law school, due both to the quality of education, as well as the quality of the grads, SJCL is our firm's first contact when we're ready to hire,” said Renee. “We don't hire just because a grad is from SJCL, we hire because they are the best, the brightest, and the most driven.”

“And it's not easy to be hired here,” she added. Renee said she has encouraged past colleagues to apply to Sullivan and



The book that inspired Michael Sullivan as a 12-year-old.

Associates, many of whom described the interview process as the most grueling and intense they ever experienced. “And many don't get hired,” she added. The rhinoceros-personality motif, is apparently non-negotiable.

D'Artagnan Montrose (Law '17), the most recent SJCL grad to join the Fresno office, has the distinction of scoring the highest in the history of the firm's training program.

Based on the 12-volume treatise Sullivan on Comp, a comprehensive collection on California workers compensation law, the training is provided to all employees, which D'Artagnan says he appreciates. The



volumes were first published in 2011 by Michael Sullivan and a co-author, and have become the standard research text used by law firms, judges, and students alike. They are updated every year.

“Everyone here is trying to make a difference in the community, not only as attorneys, but also as people,” said Joshua Kruger (Law ’12). Josh served as D’Artagnan’s mentor and training attorney, which D’Artagnan says is just one reason he loves his new position.

Coming from many years in supply chain management, D’Artagnan says the training and mentorship the firm provides create an incredible culture. “There is nothing like this in the corporate world; there’s no rigidity here,” he said.

Julie MacMichael (Law ’14) agrees. After her baby was born a year ago, the firm worked with her to schedule part-time work both in office, and from home. “This firm promotes equal opportunity for women, much more than most,” she said. “Of the 62 attorneys state-wide, half of them are women.”

Even with the flexibility, the pace in the office is vigorous. “We have lots of activity on calendar here, more hearings, trials, etc. than many other legal specialties,” said Josh.

And the field is growing. Employers big and small need legal representation when it comes to employment law. With continuous changes in complex policy, mom and pop operations are just as likely to seek advice as large corporations. Campbells, Foster Farms, and Community Hospitals are just a sampling of Sullivan’s mega-clients.

As new employers like Ulta and Amazon move in, worker’s comp firms expect to become even busier. And where will all those attorney’s come from? “It’s all about connections,” said Julie. “The comp community is saturated with SJCL alumni and there’s a big network,” said Josh. “I have gone to trial against classmates from my law school study group, including a groomsman from my wedding!” Josh said it makes for an interesting trial but, “you still do your job as a zealous advocate for your client.”

Jeremiah Paul (Law ’12) worked with Renee Logoluso at another firm, before joining Sullivan. She says she encouraged him to come to Sullivan because of his skill and expertise in all aspects of workers’ comp law. Jeremiah, who graduated with distinction and was a member of the SJCL Law Review, says he has enjoyed his first few months with the firm, and like the rest, appreciates the firm’s unique culture.

Unlike more typical law firms, the vibe at Sullivan and Associates could be called “Googlesque,” where an emphasis on self-actualization allows each member of the team to define and achieve their own success. As the firm’s website explains: “Success...is assured when (the firm) operates as a platform for the success of the employees...and by creating the conditions that allow excellent employees to achieve.” This philosophy includes a nicely stocked office refrigerator/pantry, and the freedom to wear shorts and flip flops on days with no meetings, should a rhino so desire!



Jeremiah Paul, “The Rhino,” and Joshua Kruger in the conference room at Michael Sullivan & Associates.

# Lopez Appointed Tulare County Judge

San Joaquin College of Law celebrates Kerri M. Lopez (Law '98), who was just appointed as a Tulare County Superior Court Judge.

**K**erri was named to the post on June 1st by Governor Jerry Brown with her first day of work slated for June 16th.

Lopez began her legal career as an intern at the Tulare County District Attorney's Office while she attended SJCL. Following her bar passage, she says she did have to interview for a position there, but was immediately hired as a Deputy D.A. in 1999. She has ascended the ranks over the years, serving as Assistant District Attorney for the past two years.

Lopez says she was "in shock" and "disbelief" when she learned of the appointment. Her parents were ecstatic, but had actually travelled this road before. Her father is Tulare County Judge Ronn M. Couillard. He worked as a Tulare County prosecutor from 1980 until he was appointed to the bench in 1987. He retired in 2007, but the Tulare County Courts still show him as "sitting on assignment." Lo-



pez says her father hasn't given her a great deal of advice about being a judge, but adds with a quick laugh "I'm sure he will!"

Lopez received welcoming messages from other judges on the Tulare County Court immediately after her appointment

was announced. She will be attending "judges' school," but says the other judges will still "be helping me."

She seems especially happy to be someone with local roots who is giving back. She was raised in Visalia and is "thrilled to be giving back to the community I grew up in." She also heaps praise on SJCL, called it "a great place to go to school for sure!"

The Valley is also apparently a great place to raise kids, if her 15-year-old son is any indication. She says he was very excited to see her get the post after she had been trying so long, but first, he gave her that knowing, sly smile, saying "and you thought you weren't going to get it."

Lopez fills the slot on the courts left by the retirement of Judge James Hollman and will be paid an annual salary of \$200,042. She is San Joaquin College of Law's 48th Bench Officer, but is the first to serve as a Superior Court Judge in Tulare County.

## Annual Career Panel (From Page 2)



Career Panel Speakers **Leila Alamri-Kassim** (Law '16) and **Erick Rhoan**, (Law '11)

groups has placed a high value on his abilities, which he finds very rewarding.

Whitney Northington Barnick (Law '16) is a partner in her own law firm, Barnick Hodges Law Corporation, in Arroyo Grande. She commuted from the central coast to attend SJCL, staying with her grandmother during the week, and returning home to her husband on weekends. She says at the start of her law school

journey, she worried that she would feel uncomfortable "surrounded by all these sophisticated, smart people," but it didn't happen. Whitney and her fellow panelists agreed that the spirit of comradery here is unique among law schools.

"There is no competition between students like you find in other schools," said Judge Nijjer. "Peers here work together, and

help one another. It's a priceless benefit of attending a smaller school."

Whitney says the student/professor ratio is another bonus here, which enabled her to meet with professors whenever she had questions. Whitney says she owes her success to some great advice she was given at the start:

"The bar exam is the prize," she said. "Everything you learn in law school is geared toward passing the exam." She approached her law school experience with that in mind, and it paid off.

Panelists Nijjer and Rhoan agreed.

"Once I passed the bar exam I could say (becoming an attorney and now a judge) was the best decision I ever made," said Judge Nijjer.

"When you pass the bar you feel like an Avenger!" said Erick Rhoan. "Then you get a job and they give you a stack of files and they say, go! You have to figure it out as you go, but you'll have all the tools you need."



# Bubbly and Barpassers

It was two hours after Bar results had been sent out, and Megan Brown anxiously called her former classmate to see if he had passed. DuShawn Johnson answered the phone.

“Heeeeeey,” he said in a downbeat tone. That sorry tone continued for about a minute, after which Megan could hear someone yelling in the background. It was his fiancé, Jaime Hernandez, screaming at him to stop torturing Megan.

“He passed! He passed!”

When Michael Haw’s mother, Maylien, called him, he initially let out a tortured sigh, but then couldn’t hold back his joy. This journey was over, and a bright new one was about to start.

There were those who didn’t think they would make it to the Bar Exam.

Kuljit Singh was graduating San Joaquin College of Law at the same time his vision was failing in his left eye. He underwent a cornea transplant, but the eye drops needed in both eyes produced a cataract in his right eye, requiring more surgery. He would have to postpone taking the Bar until his eyes would handle the strain of studying, but he used the time for a joyful purpose; he and his brother visited 26 relatives in India. His family moved to



FEBRUARY 2018 BARPASSERS INCLUDE (L-R) **Kuljit Singh, Michael Haw, Jeremy Dobbins, and DuShawn Johnson.** ALSO PASSING BUT NOT PICTURED: **Pardeep Bains.**

the U.S. about 20 years ago, when he was only about ten-years-old.

There were those who didn’t think they would make it through law school.

Michael Haw suffered a divorce and heart failure during his education at SJCL.

His heart condition halted his studies for a while meaning he had to repeat classes, and it took him five years to graduate. There were times when he wondered if he should not have shut down Haw’s Automotive, where he was owner and mechanic extraordinaire for years.

Singh and Haw were among the five February Barpassers feted at the Barpassers Champagne Reception on May 21st. The others included Pardeep Bains, Jeremy Dobbins, and DuShawn Johnson.

Haw was not the only second-career Barpasser.

Jeremy Dobbins was still working as a Registered Nurse at Community Medical Centers when it came time for the Champagne Reception, but that’s about to change. He has been working as a clerk at the Law Office of Kevin G. Little, who has agreed to mentor him in opening his own law practice.

Meanwhile, DuShawn Johnson also intends to open his own practice. He spent about 15 years as a Police Officer for the Visalia Police Department and wants to do criminal defense. He also doesn’t want to work for a boss, unless it’s himself. Or maybe his fiancé Jaime.

## County Counsels’ Association Honors Peter Wall

Peter Wall has received a Recognition Award from the County Counsels’ Association of California. The Association thanks Wall “for all of the assistance you provide to your colleagues statewide through your significant contributions on legal and legislative matters, most notably your work in *California State University, Fresno Assn., Inc. v. County of Fresno and Williams & Fickett.*” Wall serves as Deputy County Counsel for Fresno County. The award was presented in April during the Civil Law and Litigation Conference in Monterey.



# End of Year – Beginning of a Tradition

BY **AMANDA BUSICK** (3L)  
DEAN OF DELTA THETA PHI LAW FRATERNITY

All five of SJCL's student organizations (DTP, LawSUIT, LSCA, SBA, and CLS) came together to host the first annual "End of the Year Party" for the student body, faculty, staff, and alumni on May 11th. SJCL students and faculty came out to enjoy the great food, games, live Flamenco Band, and to celebrate the end of the academic year.

We as students, and leaders of student organizations, are lucky to be a part of a law school that is attached to such a close-knit legal community. I think the support we receive from our professors, staff, and students throughout the year is unique to SJCL. As such, DTP and other student organizations decided we wanted to embrace that uniqueness and celebrate the completion of this academic year with our classmates and SJCL faculty and staff.

The SJCL faculty and administration work tirelessly for us throughout the year ensuring that we receive the best legal education and the best experience possible during our time at SJCL. We as student organizations recognized the group effort involved in ensuring our success while in law school and figured there was no better way to celebrate the conclusion of this school year than with our classmates and those who allow us to pursue our legal careers. It truly amazes me how willing my classmates are to help one another and support one another along this journey, and we figured a small event like this would acknowledge our comradery and the support we give to one another throughout the year. The End of the Year Party also seemed like a good opportunity to enjoy ourselves in a stress-free environment, and show our classmates how much they are valued. Not to mention it is awesome to get to spend quality time with our professors outside of the classroom!

I look forward to seeing this become a new tradition at SJCL and fully anticipate there being another End of the Year Party. Special thanks to the SJCL staff who helped set-up the event and all the student organizations who volunteered their time, and funds to help host the event.



**Amanda Busick** (4L), **Joshua Hernandez** (Law '18), and **Kelsey Schulteis** (2L)



(R) **Rosie Palomino** (2L) with her two sisters **Alyssa Ediger** (L) and **Bryana Ediger**



**Stergeos Demetrios** and staff member **Joyce Morodomi**





Professor **Gregory Olson** and **Jordan Scrivner** (2L)



**Darcy Brown** (Law '18) and **Daniel Sharma** (Law '18)



**Dustin Gallegos** (3L), **Adam Awad**, (3L), **Preston Castleman** (Law '18), **Fabian Perez** (4L), and **Nicolas Maneillas** (2L)



**Daniel Cisneros** (3L), **David Piercy** (2L), attorney **Miles Harris**, and **Grace Zeluff** (3L)



**Shannon Wentworth** (4L), Professor **Jeffrey Purvis**, and **Cristal Hillis** (3L)

Q

Did you have a passionate cause that led you to law school? How did you hope to make an impact? What would your hashtag have been then? How about now?



**Faith L. Driscoll**

*Class of 2013*  
Employment Compliance  
and Litigation  
Associate Attorney  
Barsamian & Moody

“I want to effectively advise my clients to ensure they are able to focus on their businesses. Managing their greatest assets – their employees – can be challenging. The more prosperous our community becomes, the better for Fresno. In law school I read, studied, and prepped for the Bar as Starbucks’ most consistent customer, #starbucksislife. Now, as an attorney #starbucksisstilllife!”



**Shelli Pepper**

*Class of 2001*  
Personal Injury, Professional Liability  
Partner: Stammer, McKnight  
Barnum & Bailey, LLP

“A passion for personal autonomy was what led me to law school. I was working in retail management where my employment depended upon the survival of my employer’s business. I knew as an attorney I would never be unemployed – I could always hang a shingle and charge a fee for my services, #hereforme. In 17 years of practice I have made an impact by supporting and fighting for my clients through what is one of the most stressful events of their lives. These relationships have become my passion as an attorney, #hereforyou.”

## What They Said...

“In high school I served as a teacher’s assistant in the Special Education Program, which became a passion. In law school I knew I wanted to advocate for people with disabilities, but wasn’t sure how I would do that. When I became employed by a family law attorney, my boss asked if I was interested in advocating for children with disabilities under the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. I can’t believe my good fortune in being able to impact the lives of children in this way.”



**Nickie Krebsbach**

*Class of 2016*  
Associate Attorney  
Gillett Green LLP

“I always wanted to be a lawyer. I was a late bloomer, but an encouraging boss helped me make the decision to start law school. As an ardent reader and lover of history, reading case law was one of my favorite things in law school. I’m self-driven to help people, and make society a better place. As a lawyer I have a platform from which I can effect change in the world #justiceforall.”



**Natalie Packer**

*Class of 2008*  
Family Law  
Associate Attorney  
Borton Petriani, LLP

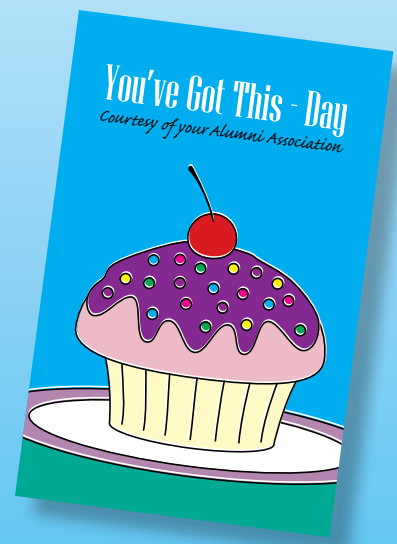
Q

### NEXT ISSUE

What is your craziest (funniest/weirdest) memory as a 1L?

Submit your response (no more than 75 words please) along with a portrait photo to [dskouti@sjcl.edu](mailto:dskouti@sjcl.edu). We'll randomly select a few alumni responses each issue.





## Alumni Association Let's Them Eat "Cake Before Finals"

Law students enjoy one of the quarterly student appreciation days sponsored by the SJCL Alumni Association. Students agree that spring finals are just a little less stressful when there's cake and lemonade in the hallway!

# Give Back by Getting Involved!

Join your Alumni Association and give back to your alma mater by helping build the SJCL Alumni Network, serving your community, and assisting current law students! Join online at [www.sjcl.edu](http://www.sjcl.edu).

## Alumni Association Calendar of Events



### 2018

SEPTEMBER 13 ..... SJCL Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony  
 OCTOBER 13 ..... Alumni Association Golf Tournament  
 NOVEMBER 3 ..... Senior Citizen's Law Day  
 DECEMBER 13 ..... Children's Holiday Party

### 2019

JANUARY 5 ..... Got MCLE?  
 QUARTERLY ..... Student Appreciation Days  
 SPRING TERM ..... Bar Talk  
 SPRING/SUMMER ..... Alumni Night at the Grizzlies

# Out and About

Out and About celebrates the things that make your success worthwhile. Send us a picture (mcartier@sjcl.edu) of your vacation (with you in it), your new baby, a quick lunch with other alumni, your crazy new hobby, or even your wedding. Help us celebrate you!



**Travis Ishikawa** (Law '12) gets “framed” at Paint Nite at Pinot’s Palette.



Fresno County Women Lawyers’ Vice President **Elizabeth Thomasian** (Law '14) and Treasurer **Jessica McClung** (Law '15) working the check-in counter at the March FCWL’s MCLE Luncheon.



**Sevag Tateosian** (Law '08), his wife, **Susie**, and their older sons, **Arthur** and **Joseph**, celebrate the arrival of baby **Alexander**

# O’Neill Book Drive



**S**taff Member Rick Rodriguez found himself and his truck swarmed by 20 eager students of Cole Elementary as he delivered the 529 books from the annual Elizabeth O’Neill Book Drive. How eager? Rodriguez says “I never saw kids fight over wanting to carry boxes. I felt like Santa Claus.”

The kids’ excitement was exceeded only by that of Cole Librarian Carrie Haines.

She was able to buy nearly a thousand books last year, but admits she has “nothing on the bottom shelves at all” throughout the school library. Cole will be splitting the bounty of books with fellow Title I School, Mountain View Elementary.

In addition to beefing up the shelves, Haines says some will go towards a special library for kids on home hospice, duplicates will be used to help build classroom

libraries, and even destroyed books will be used for art projects in the Program for the Acquisition of Language and Social Skills (PALS).

Over the past decade, the O’Neill Drive has delivered 3,923 books to Title I elementary schools in Clovis Unified. SJCL would like to thank everyone who contributed to this welcome success.



# Food Drive Supports Red Nose Day and Fresno State Food Cupboard

**M**any thanks to SJCL students, staff, and faculty who donated to our food drive in support of Red Nose Day in May. With the mission of ending child poverty, Red Nose Day culminates year-round fundraising efforts, both in the U.S. and abroad, which originated in the 1980's in the U.K. with Comic Relief.

The Fresno State Food Cupboard, a free food and hygiene pantry for current Fresno State Students, was the grateful recipient of our donations. This multi-initiative program is meant to support students who may be experiencing food insecurity, and to empower students to succeed academically. Food insecurity has become a growing problem in schools across our region.

Efforts to address this issue at the primary level are beginning to take root, but there is need in post-secondary education as well. Our aim is to support our colleagues in higher education in finding solutions.

Food Pantry student workers Lucy Moua and Viviana Guzman graciously accepted our offerings and said the items were sure to fly off the shelves.



(L-R) Fresno State Food Pantry student worker **Lucy Moua**, staff member **Beth Pitcock**, Fresno State Pantry Student Worker **Viviana Guzman**, and staff member **Diane Steal**.



(L-R) Staff members **Jeannie Lewis** and **Carlyn Robbins**; Academic Dean **Justin Atkinson**; staff members **Diane Skouti**, **Lisa Nilmeier**, **Beth Pitcock**, **Francisco "Javier" Rosas**; **Lenora Barnes** (Law '18); staff members **Sabina Johal** and **Diane Steel**; and Associate Academic Dean **Alicia Diaz-Wrest**

## Say Thank You With...Waffles



Dean Pearson and HR Director Beth Pitcock whipped up a tasty breakfast in the staff lounge to celebrate Administrative Professionals Day in April. Faculty and staff were delighted to start their day with blueberry waffles, bacon and sausage, and fresh fruit - on a Wednesday no less!

"Each of our roles incorporate administrative functions, so we took advantage of Administrative Professional Day to recognize and thank our faculty and staff for their terrific teamwork behind the scenes at SJCL," said Beth. The great food, courtesy of Jan and Beth, and time well-spent connecting and building staff relationships, made for the best hump day ever!

# SJCL ON THE MOVE

New job? Big promotion? Special honor?  
Send your info to [mcartier@sjcl.edu](mailto:mcartier@sjcl.edu) and be part of the “SJCL on the Move!”

**Judith A. Barron** (Law '97) has opened the Law Office of Judith A. Barron, specializing in Family Law, Collaborative Law and Mediation, as well as litigation.

**Jeffrey D. Boggs** (Law '16) has opened the Boggs Law Firm in Tulare, where he specializes in Criminal Defense, D.U.I. Defense, Bankruptcy and Family Law.

**Wesley L. Carlson** (Law '14) is now an Associate Attorney at Lozano Smith.

**Courtney J. Caron** (Law '07) has opened her own practice, Adamant Law Group, P.C, where she specializes in business transactions, government compliance, and start-up formations.

**Lenore C. Christensen** (Law '15) is now a Defense Attorney for Ciummo and Associates.

**Kristi M. Costa** (Law '10) is now a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Fresno.

**Michael G. Culver** (Law '13) is now a Defense Attorney for Ciummo and Associates.

**Jeremy M. Dobbins** (Law '16) has opened the Law Office of Jeremy M. Dobbins, specializing in Personal Injury, Employment Law, Criminal Defense, and Civil Rights.

**Diana S. Dooley** (Law '95) is now the Executive Secretary in the Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. The position is California's top administrative post and effectively makes her the governor's chief of staff.

**Linda K. Durost** (Law '94) is now Senior Counsel at Coleman & Horowitz, LLP, where she specializes in business, estate planning and real estate transactions.

**Mario A. Gonzalez** (Law '16) is now an Associate Attorney at Peel and Garcia LLP.

**Erik D. Hawkins** (Law '16) has opened the Law Offices of Erik D. Hawkins Esq., where he specializes in Family Law and Trusts & Estates.

**Brandon M. Hinton** (Law '16) is now a Merced County Deputy District Attorney.

**Michael B. Landers** (Law '15) is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Office of Darryl B. Freedman.

**Jasdeep Singh Lasher** (Law '17) is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Offices of Vivek Malik.

**Kerri M. Lopez** (Law '98) has been appointed as a Tulare County Superior Court Judge. She has worked for the Tulare County District Attorney's Office since 1999, serving as Assistant District Attorney for the past two years. She is the first San Joaquin College of Law graduate to serve as a Superior Court Judge in Tulare County.

**Stephen D. Malm** (Law '08) has opened the Law Office of Stephen D. Malm, where he specializes in Contracts, Real Estate, and Social Justice Advocacy Consultations.

**Elizabeth D. Mehling** (Law '17) is now a Fresno County Deputy District Attorney.

**Elizabeth M. Morgan** (Law '11) is now a Defense Attorney for Ciummo and Associates.

**Ramon Nava** (Law '14) is now an Associate Attorney at Lazaro Salazar Law, Inc.

**James Robert Campbell Orr** (Law '17) is now a Fresno County Public Defender.

**Charles M. Palmer** (Law '13) has been awarded the Wiley W. Manuel Certificate

for Pro Bono Legal Services. The CA State Bar created the award in 1989 “to recognize the contributions of the many lawyers, law students, paralegals and secretaries in California who volunteer their time and expertise on behalf of low-income clients.” Palmer was presented with the Certificate at the CCLS and FCBA's Pro Bono Services Section “Thank You Reception.”

**Elliot J. Pease** (Law '16) is now an Associate Attorney at The Oaks Law Group in Long Beach.

**Roshana M. Shirzad** (Law '15) is now a Fresno County Deputy District Attorney.

**Nancy J. Stegall** (Law '96) is now an Associate Attorney at Borton Petrini, LLP.

**Rajinder S. Sungu** (Law '12) has opened the Fresno branch of Albert & Mackenzie, specializing in Workers' Compensation claims. With the addition of the Fresno office, the firm now has offices in ten California cities, including San Francisco, Sacramento, and San Diego.

**Cynthia K. Wales** (Law '95) is now the Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer for the Dallas Mavericks. In this newly created position, she will serve as the Mav's internal control point for ethics and improprieties, allegations, complaints and policies. Previously, she was Executive Director in the Regulatory organization of SBC Pacific Bell, where she headed a team of Regulatory Managers and had the overall responsibility for a broad range of regulatory and legislative matters.

**April L. Woods** (Law '13) is an Associate Attorney at Albert & Mackenzie, LLP.



# Thank you for your support!

March 1 - May 31, 2018

San Joaquin College of Law thanks the following individuals and organizations for their gifts. Their generosity helps SJCL deliver an outstanding academic program to students.

#### Gifts of \$5,000+

Charles W. Palmer Family Foundation  
Charles Palmer ('13)  
Leon S. Peters Foundation

#### Gifts of \$1,000 - \$4,999

Hal (Faculty) and Debora Bolen  
Central Valley Community Foundation  
Michael Condry ('80)  
H. Ty Kharazi ('96)  
The Kharazi Foundation

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John "Wes" Merritt  
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Gary Caine ('12)  
Kevin Gunner ('86)  
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and Rex Haught  
Jennifer Morrison ('99)  
Richard Ruiz ('06)

#### Gifts of \$100 - \$249

Hon. Gary Austin ('76)  
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Denise Cahill ('04)  
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Joanna Ebner ('05)  
Bret Grove ('06)  
Judith Hall ('91)  
Rhea Ikemiya ('09)  
Sandra Indech ('99)  
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Wells Fargo Foundation  
Alicia Wrest (Faculty & '10)  
Thomas Zynda ('93)

#### Other

Amazon Smile Foundation  
Victoria Denny (Staff)  
Stephen Malm ('08)  
Jared Nelson (Staff)  
Mio Quatraro ('74)  
Vernon Reynolds ('10)  
Carlyn Robbins (Staff)  
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## *In Memoriam*

San Joaquin College of Law notes with sadness the passing of **Donna M. Korotie** (Law '85) on March 23rd. She is survived by two daughters and a grandchild. Pictured at left, Dean Jan Pearson and Donna Korotie celebrate at the Donor Wall Reception in 2015.



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MORE INFORMATION

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